

Posted: 1/10/2020

To: Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Sponsors

Subject: SFS-20-36 2020 State Agency Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) Waiver Requests

The intent of this memo is to inform SFSP Sponsoring Organizations that on **Monday, January 6, 2020**, the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE), Division of Nutrition Support (DNS), submitted a *request* for approval to USDA for use of a **statewide 2020 Offer versus Serve (OVS) SFSP State Agency Waiver**.

WHAT THIS MEANS FOR SFSP SPONSORS GOING FORWARD:

- Approval of Louisiana's OVS Statewide State Agency (SA) Waiver will allow for the SA to directly grant approval of use of OVS with the SFSP Meal Pattern at requested sites, as done in the 2019 SFSP.
- The 2020 SFSP Online Application [will be updated](#) (at the facility-level), after receipt of USDA OVS SA Waiver approval, in order to accommodate OVS SFSP Meal Pattern requests through this platform.
- Please note that sponsors who have already planned to go forward with their 2020 SFSP *without* use of OVS may continue to proceed accordingly. No sponsor is required to opt in for use of OVS. Please also note that use of OVS may be applied at *select* sites and/or meal service types [breakfast and/or lunch and/or supper]. Sponsors are not required to elect use of OVS on a system-wide basis.
- Any sponsor that **DOES** wish to utilize OVS with the SFSP Meal Pattern **must** reflect this via their Online 2020 SFSP Application (in all applicable facility/site-level applications). This is also the case for School Food Authority (SFA) Summer Sponsors, who wish to utilize OVS with the School Meals Program Meal Pattern (NSLP/SBP) [requests must be made via the Online Facility-Level Application].

WHAT ABOUT OTHER WAIVER OPTIONS?

- The LDOE DNS has [also submitted](#) *customized** 2020 SFSP Waiver Requests to USDA for approval for use of waivers in the remaining three (3) waiver categories, as follows:

- **Program Monitoring** [waiving of 1st week visit]
- **Meal Service Timing**
- **Closed-Enrolled Site Eligibility**

* Sponsors who applied and received approval to utilize the applicable waiver(s) in their 2019 SFSP were named in the SA's 2020 SFSP Customized Waiver Requests.

- Any sponsor that did not use a waiver in Summer 2019 who still wishes to request a waiver in any of the remaining categories (Closed-Enrolled (CE) Site Eligibility [use of F/R Area Eligibility], Program Monitoring Flexibility, and/or Meal Service Timing Flexibilities) may do so by notifying the SA of their intent between now and April 15, 2020.
- Sponsor requests must be received in writing (preferably via email [sent to: Shanna.Legier@la.gov]) by the April 15th deadline in order to be included and/or added to the applicable 2020 SA Waiver Request.
- Any sponsor wishing to implement a waiver in any of the three (3) categories bulleted above that does not notify the SA by April 15th must draft their own sponsor-level waiver request(s).

Please be reminded that, to date, the LDOE DNS has applied for use of a statewide 2020 SFSP OVS Waiver, along with three (3) customized 2020 SFSP Waivers [in the areas of Program Monitoring, Meal Service Timing, and Closed-Enrolled Site Flexibility].

Sponsors will be made aware of 2020 SFSP Waiver Approvals, once received by the SA.

If you have any questions regarding the 2020 SFSP Waiver Process or updates provided through this memo, please contact Shanna Legier, SFSP Coordinator, by phone (225-342-9661) or email (Shanna.Legier@la.gov).

Note: The 2020 SFSP Waiver Process will be covered at the March 2020 SFSP Training Sessions.

To view 2020 SFSP Training Dates, please access memo SFS 19-x162 “SFSP 2020 Training Announcement” on the CNP Website or via the direct link provided here:
<https://cnp.doe.louisiana.gov/DNAMemos/SFSP/Memos/2019/SFS-19-x162-SFSP%202020%20Training%20Announcement.pdf>